

EXPOSURE OF SLUMS BENEFITS THE DISTRICT

People Aroused by Mr. Riis' Comments on Conditions.

COMMISSIONERS INDORSE

Many Evils Already in Process of Being Remedied—Alley Reform, However, Highly Important.

The District Commissioners are thoroughly in sympathy with the views expressed by Jacob A. Riis concerning the fifth, squalor, and poverty of Washington, and his trip is welcomed because it has called public, if not national, attention to the deplorable conditions existing beneath the shadow of the halls of Congress. Commissioner Macfarland, in discussing the subject this morning, said:

"The visit of Mr. Riis will prove, I believe, of the greatest value in our endeavor to secure better sanitary conditions in the District of Columbia. It is good for a community, as for an individual, to be 'stunned awake,' as Stevenson said, to a consciousness of defects and needs. Much has been done before Mr. Riis came. The Commissioners and many citizens have been aware of the conditions; the Commissioners have recommended for several years legislation necessary to improve them. First, by authorizing the condemnation of unsanitary dwellings; second, by providing for the widening of alleys into minor streets; third, for the more effective abatement of nuisances, especially on the property of non-resident owners whom we cannot bring personally into court."

Need of Legislation Felt.

"Members of the Senate and House committees dealing with District affairs realize the need of such legislation. But the community generally and Congress generally did not realize this necessity before Mr. Riis came, as they do now. Mr. Riis, speaking from his ample experience in the battle with the slums of New York, and from personal knowledge by comparison with the slums of other great cities here and abroad, and after personal inspection of our alley slums, has brought the facts before the community and Congress so impressively that we may expect to secure not only the needed legislation, but that active support from public opinion without which it cannot be satisfactorily enforced."

"Mr. Riis dealt, of course, with only one phase of our effort to improve the public health. The completion of the filtration plant and of the sewage disposal system will, we believe, make a great improvement, and will be the better regulation of the milk supply and other health reforms which we are trying to bring about. But for the time being it is good to have emphasis laid on the alley reform."

Good Work for James Creek Canal.

"Commissioner West said he could add nothing to the statement made by Mr. Macfarland. He agreed, in every essential detail, with the position taken by the president of the Board of Commissioners. Colonel Felt, Engineer Commissioner, was also in sympathy with the argument and facts brought by Mr. Riis' visit, but said that in one or two instances the famous slum worker of New York had allowed his enthusiasm to exaggerate existing conditions."

"For example," said Engineer Biddle, "Mr. Riis denounces the James Creek Canal and says Congress should provide for its eradication immediately, on the ground that the canal is the hotbed of germs and disease. As a matter of fact, Congress is abolishing the canal as rapidly as possible, but no disease, as far as I know, is traceable to the canal. The persons living in the immediate vicinity of the canal are healthy, and no complaint comes from them. As to his statements concerning other portions of the city, I think he is only agreeing with me. There is no doubt that conditions are bad, and a remedy should be applied immediately."

CHANUKAH FESTIVAL OF A HEBREW SCHOOL

The Hebrew School of the Adath-Israel Congregation will give its annual Chanukah Festival at the Sixth Street Synagogue, on Sunday, December 20, at 8 o'clock. The following is the program: "Mah Tora," by Mrs. M. H. Cohen, violinist; "Chanukah Greetings," Edna Oppenheimer; Mazas' duet, Messrs. J. W. Korman and M. Cohen, vocalists; short address by Rabbi Loeb; Shabbat "Fraise," hymn by the school; recitations, Joseph Blumenthal, Barnum Levitan, and Sam Korman; solo, with violin obligato, by Edna Oppenheimer; the history of Chanukah, or "The Maccabean Event," told in the original Hebrew tongue, by Samuel Cohen, Carrie Oppenheimer, Edna Oppenheimer, Ben Robinson, Jake Small, Sol Goldstein, Aaron Loeb, Joseph Loeb, and Leon Oppenheimer; "Hattkavah," Zion song, by the school; recitation, Jennie Cooper and Joseph Stein; the "Mystic Ties," by Master Sam Cohen; recitation, "Mystic physics," by Jacob Schulman; Maundy service, Samuel Cohen as reader; lighting the Chanukah candles, minister and school; "Adon-Olom," by the school and congregation.

BUCHANAN NOMINATION CONFIRMED BY SENATE

The Senate in executive session, late yesterday afternoon, confirmed the nomination of William L. Buchanan to be United States minister to Panama; Joseph W. Pifer, of Illinois, to succeed himself as Interstate Commerce Commissioner; Thomas J. Atkins, to be assistant treasurer at St. Louis, and a large number of postoffice appointments.

Protests against sending the Isle of Pines to Cuba by a pending treaty were submitted to the Senate in executive session by Mr. Penrose. They came from Americans who have taken up business interests in the Isle, and who fear these will be jeopardized under alien control.

FLORIDA CONTRACTORS TO BUILD HAVANA HOTEL

HAVANA, Dec. 18.—Tampa contractors have engaged Architect Plant of Brooklyn to design plans and supervise the erection of a 600-room hotel on the Prado.

COMMISSIONERS TO CALL FOR BIDS ON BRIDGE

Amount Available for Rock Creek, \$699,000.

FOUNDATIONS CONSTRUCTED

No Appropriations Yet Made for Structures at Anacostia and Piney Branch.

Next Monday morning the District Commissioners will advertise for bids to complete construction of the Connecticut Avenue Bridge over Rock Creek. The total amount available for the purpose is \$699,000, only \$99,000 of which is now in hand. The balance must be appropriated by the present Congress.

Bids will be received at the office of the District Commissioners up to noon on January 30, 1937. The bridge must be completed and ready for travel by July 1, 1937. The total cost of the structure will be about \$800,000, over \$90,000 having already been expended.

Foundations in Place.

The foundations of all the piers have been constructed. Authority to contract for the completed work has been given by Congress. The estimated cost of the bridge is \$800,000. The estimated cost of this bridge is \$250,000, and it is believed it can be constructed within two years.

Piney Branch Bridge.

The status of the proposed Piney Branch Bridge, on the line of Sixteenth Street, is the same as that of the Anacostia Bridge. The estimated cost is \$60,000 and the time necessary for completion about one year.

In regard to the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge, Mr. Hunt says the money has all been appropriated, amounting to \$235,000, and the work is practically finished. The structure will be entirely completed within six months, and no further appropriation is necessary.

Railroad Terminal.

As far as the railroad terminal improvements are concerned, Mr. Hunt says no public funds have been expended to date, but that obligations amounting to \$200,000 have been assumed in advance of an appropriation, and consequently about 10 per cent of the total amount of work has been completed. The total estimated cost to the District, on account of the railroad terminal improvements, is as follows:

"(1) To be paid to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at completion of work, \$1,500,000; (2) Grading and paving streets along the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, \$500,000; (3) real estate to be purchased for the plaza, \$500,000; (4) damages due to the change of grade, \$600,000; (5) grading and paving in South Washington, \$170,000; total, \$3,270,000."

Half and Half.

"Of this amount the District will pay one-half and the United States one-half, or each \$1,635,000. On account of items 2, 3, 4, and 5, an appropriation of \$500,000 is needed for the ensuing year."

In addition to the bridges mentioned by Mr. Hunt, the new Highway Bridge is in course of construction, at an estimated cost of \$990,000, of which the District will pay one-half, or about \$495,000. It is being built under the supervision of the War Department.

CLAIMS SON DEFENDED HER FROM HUSBAND

Mrs. Green Proves Powerful Witness for James Butler, in His Trial for Murder.

The most important witness who testified yesterday in the trial of James Butler for murder was Nettie Green. She is the widow of Joseph Green, the man who was killed, and mother of the boy who is accused of murdering him on June 22 last.

Mrs. Green was called to testify on behalf of the defendant. She was much affected, and frequently was compelled to pause while giving her evidence. The cross-examination of Mrs. Green was conducted by Assistant District Attorney Gordon. The examination was finished, and Mrs. Green was on the stand again this morning.

Her story of the manner in which her husband met his death is practically the same as has already been told in The Times. She said that on the morning of June 23, before Green went to work, he gave her permission to sell some rugs to go on an excursion. When Green returned home in the afternoon, the witness said, he was drunk, and quarreled with her because she sold the rugs. He wanted her to give him the money she received, and she refused to do so.

This precipitated a quarrel. In the course of the quarrel, Mrs. Green said her husband struck her with a barrel stave. About this time she said her son, James Butler, the defendant, came to her rescue and struck Green on the head with an ax, felling him to the ground.

Several other witnesses will be called by the defense. When it closes its side of the case a number of witnesses will be called in rebuttal by the Government. The case will probably not be submitted to the jury before late tomorrow afternoon.

ELIZABETH BAKER RESTS IN OAK HILL CEMETERY

The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Baker was held this afternoon. The services were conducted by the Rev. J. H. Straughlin, pastor of the Mount Tabor Methodist Episcopal Church. The interment was made in Oak Hill Cemetery.

OUTLOOK PROMISING FOR TRADE NEXT YEAR

Encouraging Reports From Nearly All Large Cities.

LABOR TROUBLES SUBSIDE

Bonding Export Trade Has Caused United States to Pay Off \$500,000,000 Abroad.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Special telegrams from correspondents of the International Mercantile Agency concerning the state of trade throughout the United States are summarized as follows: Interest and dividend disbursements at Philadelphia, January 1, will aggregate \$5,000,000; at Pittsburgh \$4,000,000, and at St. Louis \$4,000,000. In the Quaker City the woolen industry fell behind 25 per cent this year, owing to previous forced production and strikes, but the outlook for 1937 is good.

General trade prospects at Pittsburgh for next year are for gains. The better sentiment in iron and steel there this week is conspicuous. Chicago reports a fair outlook for next year. St. Louis an encouraging one, and St. Paul one as good as this year. Nearly all leading Western railways are moving forward from lack of motive power to more efficient operation. The first instance of the kind this year.

Duplicate orders for spring delivery are coming in from the Northwest. At Louisville clothing makers say trade has been excellent, and that they are sold up into the middle of spring.

Demand for Structural Steel.

Inquiries for 50,000 tons of rails and structural steel at Chicago constitute one of the features of the industrial week, which, backed by stiff views of Southern and Pennsylvania iron men, go far to mark progress toward recovery in these lines. There is some conservatism in orders received by Baltimore jobbers, and while Texas railways are going a heavy business, there is some complaint of collections in that State.

Dispatches from leading centers indicate that labor disturbances, with one or two exceptions, are at a minimum. The total estimated cost to the country, in the absence of their renewal, promises to show the results of the invigorating influence of the United States having paid off not only nearly \$500,000,000 of indebtedness abroad during 1936, but of our having actually established a credit on the other side in addition thereto. This is in part the result of a bounding export trade, which, within three months, has outrun all records.

Stock Market Conditions.

Financial interests are less confident of as much of a January rise in the stock market as is customary, in view of the extent to which loans were made last summer, in the fear of high rates, to run up after January 1. Mr. Vandenberg, of the National City Bank, states that as some dividends have been cut, others abolished, and new issues put forth, it does not seem that the percentage of the amount to be paid out in New York as interest and dividends on January 1 should change much from a year ago, when it was estimated at \$100,000,000.

Inquiry among bankers and merchants in New York indicates that the year's trade at the metropolis, other than in iron, steel, lumber, cotton goods, and a few minor items among staple lines, has averaged fully equal to, and in some directions has slightly exceeded, like totals in 1932. Viewed in all directions, the picture is far more encouraging than was thought possible a few months ago, although interest in holiday purchases in retail lines has, for the time being, taken first place.

SCARLATINA RAGING IN THE CUBAN CAPITAL

American Occupation Responsible for Epidemic, Disease Having Hitherto Been Unknown in Island.

An epidemic of scarlatina is raging in Havana. According to a report received by the Marine Hospital Service, 620 cases were recently under treatment at one time.

"The department of sanitation," says the report, "has taken the most stringent measures to combat the epidemic. Most of the schools have been closed; municipal ordinances have been issued forbidding children to congregate in the parks, theaters and other public places; parents have been advised to keep their children as much at home as possible, and houses in which there were cases of scarlatina have been placed under quarantine and compelled to keep their doors and windows closed."

"The epidemic, at the present moment, seems to be on the decrease, although at this date there are still 500 cases under treatment. The rest of the island appears to be still free from scarlatina."

Before the American occupation, the report continues, scarlatina was unknown in Cuba, and the inference is that the malady was imported from the United States by the soldiers.

DIED.

BEHRENS-ZULEMA M., beloved wife of William F. Behrens, and daughter of Olivia M. Seals and late Prof. Francis M. Seals, at her residence, 122 Carroll st. se., at 11:30 o'clock, Dec. 17.

Funeral services from St. Peter's Church at 9 o'clock a. m. Saturday, December 19, 1936.

CUNNINGHAM died at his residence, 617 Eleventh Street northeast, at 1:30 a. m., December 18, 1936, CAPT. A. P. CUNNINGHAM, beloved husband of Mary J. Cunningham, after a long and painful illness, in the sixty-second year of his age.

Funeral at St. Joseph's, corner Third and C Streets northeast, Tuesday next at 9 o'clock a. m. Friends kindly invited. All members of Light Battery A will please attend. Burial in Arlington, Virginia, and New York papers please copy.

CHURCH NOTICES.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST.—Great Nations of Today in Prophecy. Address by Prof. Prescott, editor of Seventh Day Adventist Church paper, Sunday, December 20, at 7:30 p. m., at the Music Temple, questions answered. All are invited. 6015-24

NEW YORK POLITICIANS MEET THE PRESIDENT

Republican Leaders Confer at White House.

BREAKING PLATT'S MACHINE

Significant Rumors Afloat Concerning Several Changes in the Empire State Party Organization.

Governor Odell, of New York, who was the guest of the President at the White House last night, Senator Platt, William Barnes, Jr., of Albany, Wainwright Field, and a number of other Empire State Republicans met with the President this morning and discussed with him changes which are to be made in the personnel of the Republican State committee.

The present chairman of the State committee, George W. Dunn, was not invited to be present.

It was said at the conference that Postmaster Van Cott, of New York, who has always been affiliated with the Platt men, must go. The ostensible reason for the decision to oust him at the end of his term is a number of scandals which developed in the New York postoffice in the bribery investigation.

Summerville to Go.

It is intimated, however, that there is a desire in some quarters to place the patronage of the office at the disposal of the new machine. Another man who is expected to go is Summerville, of the general appraiser's office in the Empire State.

Those who were present at the meeting this morning refused to talk about what happened, but it is expected things are going to begin when the governor returns to Albany. Though his men were ousted from the county committee, and those of his friends on the State committee are doomed, Senator Platt was present at the session, and afterward said there was not the slightest trouble between Governor Odell and himself. Relations are extremely pleasant, he asserts, though day after day the machine he built up in the Empire State is being torn to pieces.

Some say the Senator is simply "playing possum," and that he will do so to the end of his term. He is expected to do so to the end of his term. He is expected to do so to the end of his term. He is expected to do so to the end of his term.

COMMISSIONERS PLEASED WITH LOCAL THEATERS

Find Precautions Against Fire Adequate in Principal Playhouses of the Capital City.

District Commissioners West and Biddle, accompanied by Fire Chief Bell and Marshal Bieber, last evening made a thorough inspection of four of the leading theaters in the city, with the view of ascertaining conditions relative to fireproofing and fire protection. The National, Columbia, Lafayette and Chase were the playhouses visited, and the two Commissioners expressed themselves as "greatly" pleased with things as they found them.

At Chase's, while the audience was peacefully enjoying the vaudeville bill, all the employees of the house were put through a fire drill. At a signal from the stage, which was unobserved by the audience, the ushers hurried to the exits and threw them open. At another signal, the exits were closed and everything proceeded as before, the audience still in ignorance.

The Commissioners say they found ample protection against fire in most all the places visited. There was a pleasing scarcity of rubbish back of the curtains, and cleanliness prevailed generally.

As a result of the trip, however, Colonel Biddle made a few recommendations to the Board of Commissioners, looking to the correction of one or two minor evils which were encountered.

THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY.

Special Money-Saving Values

\$4.95 for large, heavy leg, 6-foot Extension Table, like cut; cost elsewhere, \$8.

\$3.48 for 6-foot heavy leg Extension Table, like cut; cost elsewhere, \$6.

\$14.95 for pretty Round-end China Closet; worth \$20.

\$24.50 for very handsome Oval-front China Closet; worth \$35.

\$33.50 for Solid Mahogany China Closet; round ends.

Credit and Easy Payments.

The Tub Furniture Co., S. F. Cor. 7th and D Sts. N. W.

J. WILLIAM LEE, UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY, 222 Penn. Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.

GENERAL STAFF MAKES THE NEW ASSIGNMENTS

Officers Named for the Military Divisions.

ORGANIZATION IS COMPLETE

Major Knight in Command of Atlantic Department, and Colonel Kerr Gives Orders in Philippines.

The general staff of the army yesterday announced the assignment of officers to the military divisions as follows: Atlantic division—Chief of staff, Major John G. D. Knight, of the general staff; assistant, Capt. Frank DeW. Ramsey; adjutant general, Col. Henry O. S. Helstead; engineer officer, Col. Amos Stickney; inspector general, Col. Ernest A. Garding; assistants to the inspector general, Lieut. Col. Walter Howe, Major William T. Wood and George F. E. Harrison.

Northern division—Chief of staff, Major Edward McClelland, of the general staff; assistants, Major James A. Irons and Capt. David D. Gaillard; adjutant general, Lieut. Col. James Parker; engineer officer, Capt. William E. Ladue; inspector general, Col. Charles H. Heyl; assistants to the inspector general, Lieut. Col. Frank West and Major William A. Nichols.

Southwestern division—Chief of staff, Lieut. Col. Henry P. McCain, of the general staff; assistants, Capt. John J. Perching and Capt. John C. Oakes; adjutant general, Lieut. Col. Sydney W. Taylor; engineer officer, Major Smith S. Leach; inspector general, Lieut. Col. Charles A. Williams; assistant to the inspector general, Major Leonard W. Lovgren.

The Pacific Division.

Pacific division—Chief of staff, Col. Alexander MacKenzie, of the general staff; assistant, Lieut. Col. Frederick A. Smith; adjutant general, Col. George Andrews; engineer officer, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Handbury; inspector general, Lieut. Col. Sedgewick Pratt; assistants to the inspector general, Major Leif Feibiger and Major John P. Wisner.

Philippines division—Chief of staff, Col. John B. Kerr, of the general staff; assistants, Major William A. Mann and Capt. William F. Gibson, Robert E. L. Michie and William C. Rivers; adjutant general, Col. William A. Simpson; inspector general, Lieut. Col. John L. Chamberlain; assistants to the inspector general, Major Herbert E. Tuthery, Major Thomas R. Adams, and Major George H. B. Gale; judge advocate, Lieut. Col. Harvey C. Carbaugh; chief quartermaster, Col. John L. Clem; commissary, Col. Henry G. Sharpe; chief surgeon, Col. Charles Smart; chief paymaster, Major George R. Smith; paymasters, Majors John L. Bullis and Herbert M. Lord; engineer officer, Lieut. Col. Charles E. L. B. Davis; ordnance officer, Major Andrew H. Russell; signal officer, Major Joseph E. Maxwell.

BRYAN HAS A VISIT WITH COUNT TOLSTOY

MOSCOW, Dec. 18.—William J. Bryan arrived here yesterday and went to visit Count Tolstoy. Mr. Bryan will proceed to St. Petersburg tomorrow.

WE SELL MORE SHOES Than Any Two Stores in the City

WHY?

Because the people recognize that we give them more value and snappier style than they can get elsewhere.

The Regent \$2.50 Shoe for Men

THE REGENT, 943 Pa. Ave. N. W.

The Store That Saves You Money.

Special Money-Saving Values

\$4.95 for large, heavy leg, 6-foot Extension Table, like cut; cost elsewhere, \$8.

\$3.48 for 6-foot heavy leg Extension Table, like cut; cost elsewhere, \$6.

\$14.95 for pretty Round-end China Closet; worth \$20.

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CHINESE CLAMOROUS FOR STABLE CURRENCY

Fluctuations Result in Disadvantage to Trade.

HAY ASKS APPROPRIATION

American Commission Needs Money to Carry on Its Work in the Orient.

The President has sent to the House a communication from Secretary Hay dealing with the work of the International Exchange Commission, the American members of which were appointed upon request of the governments of Mexico and China for the purpose of establishing fixed relations between the money of the various gold standard and silver-using countries.

Secretary Hay says that it only remains to carry out the work of the commission by presenting its conclusion to the Chinese government, and that for this purpose Prof. J. W. Jenks, a member of the commission, has gone to China with instructions from the President.

Assurance of Approval.

"Measures to put an end to the fluctuations of exchange," says Secretary Hay, "appear to be desired equally by the people and the government of China, and by the foreign merchants doing business there. The representatives of the imperial government, under instructions from Peking, have supported the representatives of the United States and Mexico at the principal capitals of Europe and assurances of approval of the objects of the commission have been communicated to our minister in Peking."

Secretary Hay quotes from a joint resolution of the chambers of commerce of Shanghai, Hongkong and Tientsin, sent to the State Department, the members of the diplomatic corps at Peking, and others setting forth the disadvantages which result to trade from the fluctuations of the Chinese currency and the urgent need for placing the exchange upon a gold basis.

In conclusion Secretary Hay says the subject is one of material importance to the economic welfare of China and the United States and the successful termination of the work of the American commission would tend to enhance materially the influence and prestige of the United States in Oriental affairs. He asks for an appropriation of \$50,000 to carry on the work of the commission.

Pension Bill Passed.

After five days' debate, mostly upon irrelevant subjects, the House yesterday, without a dissenting vote, passed the pension appropriation bill. The measure carries an expenditure of a little more than \$138,000,000 for the payment of pensions to the nation's defenders, the major portion of which, of course, goes to the veterans of the civil war.

The amount appropriated is practically the same as was asked for in the estimate of the Commissioner of Pensions, and is approximately \$1,700,000 less than the pension bill of last year. The measure still remains the largest of the appropriation bills of Congress.

Open Late Tonight.

CALLISHER,

The City's Jeweler.

Just Received. Another Shipment from the Factory.

Special large heavy Solid Gold Sleeve Buttons, suitable for monogram engraving. Actually worth \$3.50. As a leader tomorrow for

\$1.75 Engraving Free.

Some more new designs in dainty Chatelaine Watches, All colors, with pin in match. Worth \$7.50. For

\$4.95 Every Watch guaranteed.

Fine Pen! Opera Glasses. Sold everywhere for \$6.50. Our price,

\$4.50

Why Not Give a Clock? Beautiful 22-karat Gold Clock as cheap as

98c 3-Day Marbleized and pretty Porcelain Clocks as cheap as

\$4.00

the assurance is hard to equal.

CALLISHER, 917 Pa. Ave. N. W.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Just arrived, three cars fancy spruce and fir Xmas trees. For select trees get your orders in early. J. DONNELLY & HARRISON, 325 B Street northwest. Phone, M-1490.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Mrs. W. Frank Rowlin having left my bed and board, and having no personal effects, I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by her. W. FRANK ROWDEN.

SPECIAL NOTICE—A meeting of the Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington and Georgetown will be held at its office on MONDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 1937, at 12 O'CLOCK, M. for the election of thirteen directors. Polls open at 11 a. m. C. W. HOWARD, Secretary.

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